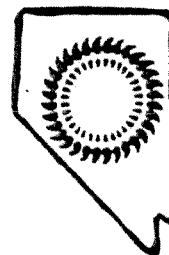


NEVADA CLIMATE SUMMARY



Office of the State Climatologist

Offices: 226 and 322
Mackay Science
(702) 784-1723

John W. James
State Climatologist
Mackay Science Hall
University of Nevada-Reno
Reno, Nevada 89557

Nevada State Library
and Archives ①

MAY 1 8 2005

APRIL 1998

STATE PUBLICATIONS

After a relatively mild winter the first full month of Spring will be logged as a cool one with some locations averaging as much as 3-5 degrees below normal. For example, Reno, Las Vegas and Winnemucca all averaged about 3° below the usual for April. Precipitation was a mixed bag, being below normal in many areas and above in others. The wettest area in Nevada this month was the Northwest where Imlay had 2.33", or three times normal, McDermitt 2.37" (2½ times normal), and Orovada 2.33" or twice normal. The wettest reporting location in Nevada was Pioche with 3.43". Some places recorded no precipitation, such as Minden, Schurz, and Boies Ranch.

With seven months of the water Year gone, precipitation ranges from 145-155% of normal in the South (Upper Colorado River is a little below normal) to only 85-95% in the Northeast. In between, Eastern Nevada is 130-155%, the Humboldt River Area 120% (Upper) to 155% (Lower), and the Tahoe, Truckee, Carson and Walker Area 115-120% of normal. In aerial coverage over ¾ of the Silver State has had above normal precipitation so far this Water Year.

Temperatures reached into the 90's at several sites in the South, and fell only to the teens at such locations as Wellington and Red Rock (15°), Jarbidge, Boies Ranch, and Montgomery Pass (14°), and Tonopah Downtown, had 12°, Charleston was the lowest at 9°.

Evaporation was below normal, with for example 10.20" at Overton, 5.11" at Shoshone, 4.74" at Honey Lake, and 4.52" at Minden.

United States Navy Climatologist Andy Frerichs, with the Naval Pacific Meteorology and Oceanography Detachment, reported a 56 mph peak wind at the Fallon Naval Air Station on May 23rd.

With summer comes the question, "How hot has it been in Nevada in recorded history? "Officially the answer is 125° at Laughlin on June 29th, 1994, with second place at 124° on June 28th, 1994 at Laughlin and Cottonwood Cove, and 124° at Laughlin July 28th, 1995". Unofficially, 128's have been recorded at Echo Bay in July 1972 (before either Laughlin or Cottonwood Cove had a record), and at Boulder Dam Site way back in July 1931. This was the same month that Charles (Pop) Squires recorded the "still highest" 118° degrees at Las Vegas, and is recognized as one of the hottest months on record in Western half of the United States. Unfortunately the Boulder Dam Site Station was only in place for three years near the Colorado River level of 1000 feet elevation. Nothing is known of its exposure, instrumentation, or housing. Echo Bay did not have a standard thermometer set up. So, the answer to "how hot has Nevada been", is still officially 125° at Laughlin in June 1994.

NOTE: This month completes 15 years of this publication.

John W. James

State Climatologist